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Commission on Sustainable Development
Intergovernmental Forum on Forests
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Promoting and facilitating the implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, and reviewing, monitoring and reporting on progress in the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests:
   (a) Promoting and facilitating implementation (programme element I.a);
   (b) Monitoring progress in implementation (programme element I.b).
4. Matters left pending and other issues arising from the programme elements of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests process:
   (a) Need for financial resources (programme element II.a);
   (b) Trade and environment (programme element II.b);
   (c) Transfer of environmentally sound technologies to support sustainable forest management (programme element II.c);
   (d) Issues that need further clarification:
      (i) Underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation (programme element II.d (i));
      (ii) Traditional forest-related knowledge (programme element II.d (ii));
      (iii) Forest conservation and protected areas (programme element II.d (iii));
      (iv) Forest research (programme element II.d (iv));
      (v) Valuation of forest goods and services (programme element II.d (v));

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(vi) Economic instruments, tax policies and land tenure (programme element II.d (vi));

(vii) Future supply of and demand for wood and non-wood forest products (programme element II.d (vii));

(viii) Assessment, monitoring and rehabilitation of forest cover in environmentally critical areas (programme element II.d (viii));

(e) Forest-related work of international and regional organizations and under existing instruments (programme element II.e).

5. International arrangements and mechanisms to promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests (programme element III).

6. Other matters.

7. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its fourth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 23 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council stipulates that, unless the commission decides otherwise, its subsidiary organs shall elect their own officers. Rule 24 of the rules of procedure states that the rules of procedure of the commission shall apply to the proceedings of its subsidiary organs insofar as they are practicable. In this regard, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the Forum shall elect, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, from among the representatives of its members, such officers as may be required.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Forum shall, at the beginning of each session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

3. Promoting and facilitating the implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, and reviewing, monitoring and reporting on progress in the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests

At its first session, the Forum stressed the need for a focused and balanced approach to its work in relation to its mandate, as contained in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex) and reconfirmed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1997/65. The Forum emphasized that there was a need to build on the positive results achieved by the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, and that the focus should be on implementation of the proposals for action and on issues on which international consensus had yet to be achieved. In the light of these considerations, the Forum decided that the work of its forthcoming sessions would be conducted under three interlinked categories (divided into 15 programme elements — 2 under category I, 12 under category II and 1 under category III) , which should receive balanced intergovernmental attention. Under programme elements I.a and I.b, the Forum will consider section III of its report on its third session and section I.A of its report on its

second session, which contain conclusions, important elements for the implementation of the IFF proposals for action and proposals for action for these programme elements.

Documentation

Report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its third session (E/CN.17/IFF/1999/25)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting section I.A extracted from the report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its second session (E/CN.17/IFF/2000/5)

4. Matters left pending and other issues arising from the programme elements of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests process

Under programme elements II.a, II.b, II.c, II.d (i)-(viii) and II.e, the Forum will consider sections IV.A-D of its report on its third session and section II.F of its report on its second session, which contain conclusions and proposals for action for these programme elements. In addition, it will consider the report of the Secretary-General on programme element II.e, which was before the Forum at its third session but was not discussed.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on programme element II.e (E/CN.17/IFF/1999/15)

Report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its third session (E/CN.17/IFF/1999/25)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting section II.F extracted from the report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its second session (E/CN.17/IFF/2000/6)

5. International arrangements and mechanisms to promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests

Under programme element III, the Forum will consider section V of its report on its third session, which contains a compilation of proposals presented by the Co-Chairmen, as well as the other documentation listed below.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary General (E/CN.17/IFF/2000/4)

Report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its third session (E/CN.17/IFF/1999/25)

Note by the Secretariat on priority forest policy issues (E/CN.17/IFF/2000/2)

Note by the Secretariat on elements and functions for a future international arrangement and mechanism (E/CN.17/IFF/2000/3)

7. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its fourth session

The report of the Forum on its fourth session will be submitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session, in 2000.